

PRESS RELEASE



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Idaho Arbor Day Poster Contest Winner Advances to National Competition

(Boise...March 26)—Stori Lynne Loveland, a fifth-grade student at Idaho Virtual Academy in Nampa is the Idaho state winner in the 2004 Arbor Day National Poster Contest.

Loveland's entry was selected by a panel of judges from the Idaho Department of Lands and the Idaho Forest Products Commission. The contest, sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota Motor Corporation, asked students to create a poster reflecting the theme "Trees are Terrific...in Cities and Towns!" The annual contest educates children about the importance of planting and caring for trees.

Fifth-grade students from across Idaho participated in the contest this year. As the winner, Loveland will receive a \$150 US Savings Bond, and her teacher will receive \$100 in cash for classroom supplies. As Idaho's state winner, Loveland is now entered in the national contest.

"This contest offers students throughout Idaho the chance to creatively express important messages regarding trees, one of our most valuable natural resources," said Winston Wiggins, State Forester. "Students, like Stori Lynne, learn about the importance of trees to us and the environment and the role we play in managing and caring for them."

In addition to Loveland, Lyndsay Tillotson, from Mackay Elementary was selected as second place state winner and Nikki Praegitzer, from Big Valley Elementary in Rupert, took third. Tillotson will receive a \$100 bond and Praegitzer will receive a \$50 bond. Their teachers will also receive \$100 for classroom supplies and a tree for their school. Pictures of the winning posters can be viewed at www2.state.id.us/lands.